IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION DOCKET No. : PF 53620 HESSE ET AL. CONFIRMATION No.: 7432 SERIAL No. 10/516,922 GROUP ART UNIT: 1621 FILED: DECEMBER 07, 2004 EXAMINER. K. GALE For: Two-Stage Process for Preparing Butanediol with Inter-

MEDIATE REMOVAL OF SUCCINIC ANHYDRIDE

Honorable Commissioner

for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.113(c) AND \$1.116

Sir:

In reply to the Office action of January 10, 2007, it is respectfully requested that the following remarks and the attached amendments1) be entered and considered for further prosecution of the above-identified application.

It is further respectfully requested that a one month extension of time be granted in this case. The respective \$120.00 fee is paid by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed).

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 14.1437. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

> Respectfully submitted, NOVAK DRUCE DELUCA & OUIGG

/James Remenick/ James Remenick Reg. No. 36,902

Customer No.: 26474 1300 Eve Street, N.W. Suite 1000 West Tower Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 659-0100

Encl.: CLAIM AMENDMENTS (Appendix I)

JR/BAS

¹⁾ Cf. the Claim Amendments set forth in Appendix I on pages 3 to 6 of this paper.